



WEEK FIVE: THE TRANSFORMATION PRINCIPLE

CONNECT

This week we begin a new series called Hope Changes Everything! In this eight-week series, we'll look at the principles Jesus gave us in the beatitudes that help us see the hope and freedom we find in God alone. This week, we look at the **Transformation Principle** that occurs when we pursue God, and let Him change us.

- What tool or gadget do you have, or wish you had, that can be used to do more than one task or function?
- What is the longest you have gone without food? What was the reason?

DISCOVER

Read Matthew 5:6

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. (ESV)

Read Luke 19:1-10

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¹Jesus entered Jericho and made his way through the town. ²There was a man there named Zacchaeus. He was the chief tax collector in the region, and he had become very rich. ³He tried to get a look at Jesus, but he was too short to see over the crowd. ⁴So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree beside the road, for Jesus was going to pass that way.

⁵When Jesus came by, he looked up at Zacchaeus and called him by name. "Zacchaeus!" he said. "Quick, come down! I must be a guest in your home today."

⁶Zacchaeus quickly climbed down and took Jesus to his house in great excitement and joy. ⁷But the people were displeased. "He has gone to be the guest of a notorious sinner," they grumbled.

⁸Meanwhile, Zacchaeus stood before the Lord and said, "I will give half my wealth to the poor, Lord, and if I have cheated people on their taxes, I will give them back four times as much!"

⁹Jesus responded, "Salvation has come to this home today, for this man has shown himself to be a true son of Abraham. ¹⁰For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost."

- What do you think Jesus means by "hunger and thirst"?
- How could you explain "righteousness", or what you think it means to be "righteous"?
- Why do you think Zacchaeus was so instantly and so radically transformed?
- Jesus said that He "came to seek and save those who are lost." what does that mean in Zacchaeus' life? What does that have to do with him being a "true son of Abraham"?

GROW

Big Idea: Voluntarily submit to any and all changes God want to make in my life and humbly ask Him to remove my character defects

- On a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the highest, where would you place your current hunger and thirst for righteousness?
- On a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the highest, where would you place your current desire and willingness for God to remove your character defects?
- Who is the "Zacchaeus" in your life? How would you have felt to see Jesus come, and then invite Himself to his home for dinner?
- Where did Jesus find you (*Zacchaeus was in a tree*)? What did "lost" look like in your life at that time (*Zacchaeus was cheating people on their taxes*)? How do you see your life now compared to then?

NEXT STEPS

- Zacchaeus likely saw hope in Jesus, and his encounter changed everything! Is there an area of your life that we, as a group, can be praying for you that you are struggling to let God change? You don't have to share what you aren't ready to, but allow us to pray for you this week that you will humbly ask Him to change that area of your life.
- If you struggle with any Hurts, Habits, or Hang-Ups, come try out Celebrate Recovery on Monday nights at 6:30, at the Goodyear Campus, 431 N Litchfield Rd, Goodyear, 85338.
www.palmvalley.org/celebraterecovery

